Attorney Docket No. 06618-581001
Serial No. 09/765,772
Amendment dated February 17, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated October 17, 2003

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and

listings, of claims in the application:

1.   (Currently amended) A method of recognizing

handwriting, comprising:

obtaining a sample of handwriting;

segmenting said sample into separate handwritten words; and

attempting to recognize a whole handwritten word without

attempting to recognize any individual letter of the whole

handwritten word, by determining candidate features within the

word, determining areas of higher entropy and lower entropy, and

determining higher profile features which have higher weighted

parts during recognition, and low-profile features which have

lower-weighted parts during recognition, and locations of said

high-profile features and said low-profile candidate features

within the word.

2.   (Canceled)

3.   (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, been

wherein said recognizing comprises determining features of the

silhouette.

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4.   (Canceled)

5.   (Previously presented) A method as in claim 1,
wherein said determining features comprises determining prime
features.

6.   (Previously presented) A method as in claim 5,
further comprising enclosing said prime features to form hybrid
features.

7.   (Original) A method as in claim 6, further comprising
sorting said features by first syllable blends.

8.   (Previously presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein
said attempting comprises categorizing a whole of said
handwritten word according to its overall silhouette.

9.   (Previously presented) A method of recognizing
handwriting, comprising:

obtaining a sample of handwriting;

segmenting said sample into separate handwritten words; and

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attempting to recognize a whole handwritten word without attempting to recognize any individual letter of the whole handwritten word, by categorizing a whole of said handwritten word according to its overall silhouette; and

wherein said categorizing comprises categorizing positions of features in said handwritten word, and categorizing first syllable blends of said handwritten word.

10.   (Original) A method as in claim 1, wherein said sample of handwriting includes family names.

11.   (Original) A method as in claim 10, further comprising forming a list of a plurality of family names, and forming silhouette information about said plurality of family names, and comparing said separate handwritten words to said plurality of family names.

12.   (Original) A method as in claim 11, wherein said comparing comprises forming silhouette information, and comparing said silhouette information into said silhouette information about said plurality of family names.

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13.   (Original) A method as in claim 12, wherein said

silhouette information includes information about the presence

of high and low parts in the written word and the position of

those high and low parts.

14.   (Original) A method as in claim 12 wherein said

silhouette information includes first syllable blends in the

word.

15.   (Previously presented) A method, comprising:

analyzing a sample of handwriting by analyzing a whole word

of said sample at any one time, said analyzing comprising (1)

forming information indicative of a silhouette of said whole

word,wherein said silhouette information includes prime profiles

indicative of specified features, used to form concatenations of

said prime profiles which concatenation describe combinations of

specified features, (2) analyzing slope sequences of the

handwriting, (3) analyzing N-S profiles of the handwriting, and

(4) analyzing cavities within said handwriting, and (2)

comparing said information with a database of information about

other analysis information.

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16.   (Original) A method as in claim 15, wherein said

database of information comprises a database of information

obtained from a list of possible words.

17.   (Canceled)

18.   (Original) A method as in claim 15, wherein said

silhouette information includes information indicative of high

parts in the word and low parts in the word, and positions of

said high parts and low parts in the word.

19.   (Previously presented) A method comprising:

analyzing a sample of handwriting by analyzing a whole word

of said sample at any one time, said analyzing comprising

forming information indicative of a silhouette of said whole

word, and comparing said information with a database of

information about other silhouettes, wherein said silhouette

information includes prime profiles indicative of specified

features, and concatenated profiles indicative of combinations

of specified features; and

wherein said silhouette information includes information

about first syllable blends in the word.

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20.   (Original) A method as in claim 18, wherein said silhouette information also includes information about first syllable blends in the word.

21.   (Canceled)

22.   (Previously presented) A method as in claim 18, wherein each of a plurality of silhouette information is provided with a number.

23.   (Previously presented) A method as in claim 18, wherein each feature is assigned a number.

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